



SOMEBODY HERE NEEDS YOU.

To: The Honorable Mike Simpson, Chair of the House Committee on Agriculture
From: Cal Morgan, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Michigan Humane Society
Date: July 29, 2009
Re: HB 5127 and HB 5128

The Michigan Humane Society wishes to update the Agriculture Committee with our current position on the Substitutes for HB5127 and HB5128. To date, we have provided the committee with our initial reaction to the bills' introductions (letter of June 24, 2009) and a detailed list of our concerns and suggested amendments (memorandum of July 23, 2009) to the bill sponsors and other stakeholders. In the time since the bills were introduced, we have engaged in ongoing discussions with the Michigan Farm Bureau and other stakeholders regarding the bills. We appreciate the fact that some of our initial concerns, specifically relating to animal cruelty investigation and consumer representation on the proposed council, have been addressed by changes to the bills.

However, since a number of our concerns have yet to be discussed with stakeholders due to time constraints, we are unable to support the bills at this time. Michigan Humane Society looks forward to continued dialogue on the specific issues outlined in our memorandum and hope to schedule another meeting with the stakeholders very soon to resolve the remaining issues.